

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 /048 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7393

INFO SECDEF WASH DC

JCS WASH DC

CNO WASH DC

AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CNO ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY

1. ADMIRAL JAMES HOLLOWAY, CNO, VISITED EGYPT MARCH 25-28 ON INVITATION EGYPTIAN CNO REAR ADMIRAL ASHRAF MOHAMED RIFAAT. HOLLOWAY WAS SENIORMOST AMERICAN MILITARY OFFICER TO VISIT EGYPT SINCE RESUMPTION DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN 1974. U.S. NAVY HAS PLAYED SIGNIFICANT AND APPRECIATED ROLE IN DEVELOPING NEW U.S./EGYPTIAN RELATIONSHIP, HENCE IT WAS APPROPRIATE THAT USCNO SHOULD BE FIRST MEMBER OF JCS TO VISIT EGYPT. EGYPTIAN NAVY HAD PREPARED EXTENSIVE SCHEDULE IN BOTH CAIRO AND ALEXANDRIA FOR ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY. AMONG OTHER ACTIVITIES, ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY CALLED ON MINDEFENSE GENERAL GAMASY, WAS RECEIVED BY PRESIDENT SADAT, VISITED NAVAL FACILITIES IN ALEXANDRIA AND SPOKE AT NASSER MILITARY ACADEMY.

2. GAMASY VISIT: GAMASY RECEIVED ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY THE
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MORNING OF 26 MARCH. RADM RIFAAT, CAPT POINDEXTER (CNO EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT) AND ALUSNA WERE ALSO PRESENT. ADM HOLLOWAY THANKED GENERAL GAMASY FOR HIS ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING SHIP VISITS TO EGYPT AND FOR THE WARMTH WITH WHICH THESE VISITS ARE RECEIVED. GENERAL GAMASY COMMENTED THAT THERE HAD BEEN SEVEN VISITS LAST YEAR AND ONE SO FAR THIS YEAR; THAT THERE HAVE BEEN NO

PROBLEMS AND THAT HE WAS SURE THEY WOULD BE AS WELL RECEIVED IN THE FUTURE. HE WENT ON TO THANK ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY FOR NAVY ASSISTANCE TO EGYPT DURING THE SUEZ CANAL MINE AND OBSTRUCTION CLEARANCE'

3. MEETING WITH SADAT: SADAT RECEIVED ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY SHORTLY AFTER HIS MEETING WITH GENERAL GAMASY ON MARCH 26' ALSO PRESENT WERE VP MUBARAK, GENERAL GAMASY, REAR ADM RIFAAT AND AMBASSADOR. AFTER THE PRESIDENT HAD EXTENDED A WARM WELCOME, ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY THANKED SADAT FOR THE HOSPITALITY THAT GOE AND EGYPTIAN NAVY HAVE EXTENDED TO U.S. NAVAL VESSELS DURING PORT VISITS TO ALEXANDRIA. SADAT RESPONDED THAT GOE DEEPLY APPRECIATES ASSISTANCE GIVEN BY U.S. NAVY IN SUEZ CANAL MINE CLEARANCE, PORT SAID MINE CLEARANCE AND HYDROGRAPHIC SURVEY CURRENTLY UNDERWAY. EGYPTIAN PEOPLE WERE HAPPY TO HAVE U.S. NAVAL VESSELS VISIT EGYPTIAN PORTS' THEY LIKE AMERICANS AND ARE PLEASED WITH THE NEW RELATIONSHIP THAT HAS DEVELOPED' SADAT HOPED THAT THERE MIGHT BE EVEN MORE COOPERATION BETWEEN OUR TWO NAVIES AND OUR TWO GOVTS IN THE FUTURE.

4. ALEXANDRIA VISIT: RADM RIFAAT HAD PLANNED A SCHEDULE TO INCLUDE 24 HOURS WITH EGYPTIAN NAVY IN ALEXANDRIA. ALTHOUGH LAST MINUTE MAJOR ADJUSTMENTS HAD TO BE MADE BECAUSE OF SCHEDULING OF CALLS ON SADAT AND GAMASY, ALL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SCHEDULED EVENTS WERE ULTIMATELY ACCOMPLISHED. ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY WAS TAKEN ON 45-MINUTE PIERSIDE WALK-BY OF REPRESENTATIVE EGYPTIAN NAVY SHIPS AND SUBSEQUENTLY WENT ABOARD A SKORY CLASS RUSSIAN-BUILT DESTROYER. MUCH TO RADM RIFAAT'S PLEASURE ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY SUBSEQUENTLY TOLD MINDEF GENERAL GAMASY HOW IMPRESSED HE HAD BEEN WITH THE CLEANLINESS OF THE SHIP AND THE COMPETENCE OF THE OFFICERS AND MEN. GAMASY WAS ALSO PLEASED TO HEAR THIS COMMENT' ALEXANDRIA PRESS INTERVIEW WAS UNEVENTFUL BUT GAVE ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY OPPORTUNITY TO THANK ALEXANDRIA COMMUNITY FOR ITS HOSPITALITY TO AMERICAN SAILORS.

5. NASSER ACADEMY: ON MARCH 27 ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY GAVE A THIRTY MINUTE PRESENTATION AT THE NASSER HIGHER ACADEMY IN CAIRO (U'S. WAR COLLEGE EQUIVALENT)' ALSO PRESENT WERE STUDENTS AND STAFF OF THE HIGHER NAVAL ACADEMY. HE SPOKE OF STRATEGIC ROLE OF U.S. NAVY SEA POWER. A TEN MINUTE QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS PERIOD FOLLOWED WHICH, HAD TIME PERMITTED, COULD HAVE GONE ON FOR MUCH LONGER.

6. HOSPITALITY: AS USUAL, EGYPTIANS WERE LAVISH IN THEIR

HOSPITALITY. ADMIRAL AND MRS. HOLLOWAY HAD LUNCH IN ALEXANDRIA WITH GOVERNOR OF CITY, SENIOR NAVAL OFFICERS AND AMCONGEN. THE SAME EVENING RADM RIFAAT GAVE RECEPTION AND BANQUET FOR AMERICAN GUESTS WITH LARGE NUMBER OF EGYPTIAN OFFICERS AND THEIR WIVES PRESENT' ON FINAL EVENING, AMBASSADOR GAVE RECEPTION IN HONOR OF ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY, WHICH GAMASY, RIFAAT, OTHER SENIOR EGYPTIAN MILITARY AND NAVAL OFFICERS, SENOR UNEF OFFICERS AND RANKING DIPLOMATS ATTENDED.

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7. COMMENT: VISIT BY ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY WAS VERY WELL RECEIVED AND APPRECIATED BY EGYPTIAN NAVY' NAVAL HEADQUARTERS IS 150 MILES FROM CAIRO HENCE NAVY IS NOT USUALLY IN THE MAINSTREAM OF EVENTS. ADMIRAL HOLLOWAY'S OBVIOUS PROFESSIONALISM AND POSITIVE AND FRIENDLY MANNER WITH HIS EGYPTIAN HOSTS MADE A MOST POSITIVE IMPRESSION. WE ADJUDGE HIS VISIT AS AN UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS' EILTS.

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